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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 25, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 21 totaled an estimated 19.4 billion ton-miles, 5.5 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 47 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 838.8 billion ton-miles carried, up 5.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended November 21 totaled 433,764, up 5.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 1.9 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 5.9 percent in the East and 5.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 15 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Metallic ores showed a gain of 7,083 cars (60.6 percent), while coal loadings increased by 1,974 cars (1.6 percent). Loadings of metals and products were up 2,487 cars (34.3 percent), and chemicals and allied products increased by 1,841 cars (7.4 percent). Ten of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 14 totaled 103,787 trailers and/or containers, 2.4 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 46 weeks of the year was 4,563,718 trailers and/or containers, up 2.8 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/21/87:

	Loadings in Week ended November 21, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,021	D	611	1.9	I	684	2.3
Other farm products	3,585	D	1,058	22.8	D	311	8.0
Metallic ores	18,779	I	7,083	60.6	D	633	3.3
Coal	127,333	I	1,974	1.6	I	6,698	5.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,036	I	1,488	11.0	D	852	5.4
Nonmetallic minerals	10,469	I	1,396	15.4	I	418	4.2
Grain mill products	11,247	I	131	1.2	D	93	0.8
Food and kindred products	11,869	I	336	2.9	I	184	1.6
Primary forest products	10,552	D	199	1.9	I	589	5.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,960	I	22	0.3	I	132	1.7
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,415	D	1,003	8.1	D	131	1.1
Chemicals and allied products	26,554	I	1,841	7.4	I	627	2.4
Petroleum products	4,810	I	478	11.0	D	310	6.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,235	I	709	7.4	D	865	7.8
Coke	5,573	I	1,357	32.2	I	328	6.3
Metals and products	9,746	I	2,487	34.3	D	116	1.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,107	I	102	0.5	D	608	2.8
Waste and scrap materials	10,223	I	1,901	22.8	I	244	2.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,400	D	915	27.6	D	393	14.1
All other carloads	83,850	I	5,433	6.9	I	2,464	3.0
Total Cars Loaded	433,764	I	22,952	5.6	I	8,056	1.9
Corresponding week of 1986	410,812						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (47 weeks)	18,885,476	18,040,902	I 4.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
46 Weeks ended November 14	819.4	778.1	I 5.3
Week ended November 21	19.4	18.4	I 5.5
47 Weeks cumulative	838.8	796.5	I 5.3

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